small airports, with no-frills to come up in the vicinity of the international airports, modelled on London's Stansted Airport, which would offer fewer facilities and charge lower rates, for overall cheaper operations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the specific sites identified so far for the purpose in different States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVILAVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) There is no such proposal to construct small airports in the vicinity of International Airports.

(b) Does not arise.

AIR India's Services from Kolkata

2172. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether out of fifty four International Airlines Flights per week from Kolkata only one is operated by Air India that too upto Mumbai;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the action plan to increase air linkage of Kolkata with South East Asia, East Asia, European countries through Air India;

(d) whether a request has been made by State Government for Kolkata-Tokyo flight by Air India in view of high investment of Japanese Companies in West Bengal; and

(e) if so, the action taken by Government so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVILAVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) and (b) Due to capacity constraints and limited market from Kolkata, Air India links Kolkata to UK, USA, Europe and Gulf over Mumbai once a week.

(c) Presently Air India has no plans to introduce direct services between Kolkata and any South East Asian/East Asian or European countries.

(D) and (e) A request had been received from Chief Minister, West Bengal in October 2002, requesting for direct flights from Kolkata to Tokyo. The request was examined and a reply was sent to CM in February 2003.

Presently, Air India operates four times a week to Tokyo and twice a week to Osaka from Mumbai and Delhi as the market to Japan from Kolkata is limited as compared to the Japan/Mumbai/Delhi markets.

Accidents involving small Aircrafts

†2173. SHRIMATIKUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small and big aircrafts being operated by Government and private companies which met with accidents during the last three years;

(b) the number of cases out of these accidents in which inquiry committees were constituted;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVILAVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) There had been 18 accidents to Indian Civil Registered Aircraft from 01.01.2001 to till date.

(b) and (c) There had been two accidents for which Inquiry Committees were constituted. The details of these accidents are as under:

(i) A King Air C-90 aircraft VT-EFF operated by M/s. Jindal Strips Limited, New Delhi was involved in an accident on 30.09.2001 near Mainpuri, Uttar Pradesh.

(ii) A Bell 206 helicopter VT-DAP of M/s. Deccan Aviation was involved in an accident on 03.03.2002 at Kaikalur near West Godavari District in Andhra Pradesh.

(d) In pursuance of Rule 71 of Aircraft Rules, 1937, Inspectors of Accidents were appointed to investigate into the remaining 16 accidents.

Civilian Air Traffic Controllers at Air Force Bases

2174. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CIVILAVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Air Force is willing to accommodate

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.